1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	90	90	5	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	68	68	4	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	87	87	1	-
10.	Karnataka	224	223	7	1
11.	Keraia	140	140	13	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	320	318	17	2
13.	Manipur	60	56	-	4
14.	Maharashtra	288	288	12	-
15.	Meghalaya	60	60	1	-
16.	Mizoram	40	40	-	-
17.	Nagaland	60	60	-	-
18.	Orissa	147	147	10	-
19.	Punjab	117	117	7	-
20.	Rajasthan	200	200	10	-
21.	Sikkim	32	32	1	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	234	234	11	-
23.	Tripura	60	60	1	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	425	424	18	1
25.	West Bengal	294	294	20	-
26.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	70	70	3	-
27.	Pondicherry	30	30	1	-
	Total	4072	4062	175	10

Statement-II

Legislative Council

S.	Name of State	Total No. of Seats		Total No. of M.L.Cs. at present		Total No. of Women M.L.Cs.		Seats vacant	
		Elected	Nominated	Elected	Nominated	Elected	Nominated	Elected	Nominated
1.	Bihar	84	12	50	3	4	-	34	9
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	28	8	-	7	-	-	28	1
3.	Karnataka	64	11	39	11	4	1	25	-
4.	Maharashtra	66	12	66	12	7	3	-	-
5.	Uttar Pradesh	96	12	57	12	3	-	39	-

Recommendations of Committee on Handlooms

1188. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Expert High Powered Committee on Handloom sector has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A *statement* is attached.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee have been received very recently.

Statement

Details of Main Recommendations of Expert High Powered Committee on Handloom Sector

1. All major handloom concentrated States may set up a separate Departments of Handlooms. State Handloom Corporations and Apex Societies should be revitalised by providing suitable rehabilitation package.
2. A National Handloom Credit Fund with a Corpus of atleast of Rs. 500 crores may be set up for providing credit to the weavers outside the cooperative fold.
3. NABARD may consider waiving the provisions with regard to the guarantee cover in respect of limits sanctioned. Loss Guarantee Scheme may be introduced to protect the interest of the Banks. The Credit for trading in yarn may also be refinanced at 9½% interest rate.
4. All State Governments may exempt Hank Yarn and Handloom products from any tax, including Sales tax, Entry tax and Octroi.
5. Wide spread availability of testing facilities, particularly in the handloom concentrate areas may be ensured and a scheme may be introduced to make the Handloom Corporations/Apex Societies achieved and other BIS-14000/ISO-9000 standards.
6. A National Handloom Centre may be set up to maintain handloom collection of contemporary excellence, to document the information of handlooms and to undertake research on handlooms.
7. Marketing complexes including handloom haats and permanent exhibition sites at Village, sub-division, district and town level in large numbers may be set up by the Central/ State Governments or their agencies.
8. A comprehensive project package for development of exportable products should be developed.
9. A Calamity Relief Scheme may be introduced to provide support for purchase of handlooms and other accessories, subsidy on purchase of Hank Yark under Hank Yarn Subsidy Scheme, enhanced availability of credit, ensured buy-back of production and to provide immediate relief under various ongoing Schemes of the State Governments.
10. Welfare Schemes may include all handloom workers and not just weavers. Coverage of Handloom workers under the Welfare Schemes of the Handlooms should be substantially stepped up both in cooperative and outside the cooperative fold.
11. Special thrust under ongoing Schemes handlooms sector may be given for overal development of North-Eastern States, by providing additional financial input, where required.

UK Investment

1189. SHRIMATI JAYWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "£ 3 billion UK Investment are in pipeline" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated January 12, 1997; and

(b) if so, the areas identified for this investment and the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) During the years 1991-96, the Government of India has approved investment proposals from UK firms to the tune of Rs. 52.4 billion.

(b) During the meeting of the Indo-British Partnership Initiative held in January, 1997, potential areas of cooperation identified 'by the both sides are : infrastructure, financial services, education and training, mining, tourism and manufacturing. Government of India has instituted simple, transparent, automatic and rational system for attracting foreign direct investment into India including from UK.

Production of Rubber

1190. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide training to farmers for the production of best quality of natural rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of small and marginal rubber growers in the country particularly in the State of Kerala;

(d) whether any financial or other assistance is being given to them to improve the quality of their produce;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any institutions or industries for purification of rubber sheets produced by farmers are functioning in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken to ensure production of best quality of natural rubber in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.